

10/584817

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 JUN 2006

Attorney Docket No. 2003P01981WOUS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gundula Czyzewski et al

Application Number: Unassigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title: METHOD FOR WASHING LAUNDRY IN A PROCESS-  
CONTROLLED HOUSEHOLD WASHING MACHINE

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

EP 0 859 304 discloses a method for adjusting the temperature of a process medium (2), e.g. the washing solution in a washing machine. The washing solution (2) temperature is regulated to a preset control interval between an upper switch temperature and a lower switching temperature. This temperature regulating process involves controlling the thermal energy (Q) supplied to the liquid (23). The total of the thermal energy (Q) supplied to the liquid (2) since the start of the regulating process is registered and the supply of thermal energy (Q) is interrupted when this total exceeds a preset process energy value. A device is also claimed for adjusting the temperature of the washing solution.

DE 100 54 957 discloses a procedure wherein the method involves automatically varying the duration of the washing times of the individual washing stages depending on the water inlet temperature and/or including and/or excluding individual washing stages depending on the water inlet temperature, which is measured at the start of each washing stage.

EP 0 235 668 discloses a method for correcting the nominal supplementary washing time specific to a particular washing program for a washing process in program-controlled

drum-type washing machines with heating for the washing water. The time for heating the washing water from the first switch-on of the heating to the reaching of the particular selected desired temperature, at which the heating is switched off, is measured. The measured or determined time period is used as a criterion for positive or negative correction of the particular nominal supplementary washing time.

DE 29 23 007 discloses an arrangement for the electrical programme control of washing machines by means of a step-by-step wash programme which can be controlled in a time- and temperature-dependent manner, characterized in that, in order to implement wash programmes with temperature-induced programme progression, arranged in front of the temperature switching step which advances the programmer are one or more time steps, the total duration of said time steps being such that, under normal conditions, the wash liquor is heated to or at least approximately to the highest programme temperature, which is the temperature of the boil wash programme.

DE 199 08 804 discloses that the fresh water supply device (6) supplies fresh water while the drum (2) is driven at the speed at which the washing still lies against the inner drum periphery. The pump (20) of the circulating system (16) is kept switched on until the laundry is saturated. The fresh water supply is then switched off and the treatment liquor in the circulating system (16) is heated to an ideal value through a heater (22).

DE 198 54 435 discloses that the part of washing solution (8) is heated to the required temperature and supplied to the laundry (5) in the washing drum (4). An additional part of the solution (8) is then heated to the required temperature. The washing solution (8) can be divided into equal parts or parts which differ from each other. It can be divided into three parts.

DE 196 37 610 discloses that a combined hot and cold water supply is for washing machines. Hot water supplied from an external source is combined with cold water in a controlled manner to produce water with the required washing temperature. The water and the cold water flow together before being fed in the washing space and the throughflow volume of each type of water is controlled to achieve the required mixing ratio.

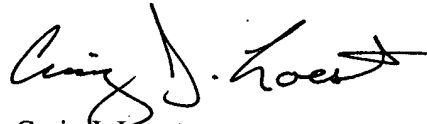
WO 03/097922 discloses a water-guiding domestic appliance, in particular a washing machine (1), connected to a first water supply line (8) for cold water and a second water supply line (9) for hot water. The water supply lines (8,9) are connected to a mixer tap (10) enabling water to flow into a lye container (3) via a supply line (11). The mixer tap (10) is

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integrated into a regulating device (10, 12 - 14) used to regulate the temperature of the water flowing into the lye container (3).

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



Craig J. Loest

Registration No. 48,557

June 27, 2006

BSH Home Appliances Corp.  
100 Bosch Blvd  
New Bern, NC 28562  
Phone: 252-672-7930  
Fax: 714-845-2807  
craig.loest@bshg.com

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**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

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First Named Inventor	Gundula Czyzewski et al
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## Art Unit

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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		GB 957,944	05-13-1964	Philip Barnish et al		✓
		EP 0 859 304	08-19-1998	Harald Steinmuller		
		DE 100 54 957	05-08-2002	Winfried Steiner et al		
		EP 0 235 668	09-09-1987	Franz-Josef Wipperfurth		
		DE 29 23 007	12-18-1980	Miele&Cie GmbH & Co.		
		DE 199 08 804	09-07-2000	Edwin Bolduan et al		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						T <sup>6</sup>
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 198 54 435	05-31-2000	Gunter Wentzlaff et al		
		DE 196 37 610	03-19-1998	Jorg Honicke		
		WO 03/097922	11-27-2003	Andreas Lahrmann et a		
		International Search Report PCT/EP2004/053720				✓

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